

## NEW SPECIES OF *TENAGOBIA* (HETEROPTERA: CORIXIDAE) FROM VENEZUELA<sup>1</sup>

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ABSTRACT: *Tenagobia (Baliagobia) castanea* sp. n. is described from the Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela.

The genus *Tenagobia* Bergroth was last revised by Nieser (1977), who reviewed previous works and recognized 26 valid species. Since then, Bachmann (1979) described one subspecies.

The CL number given below refers to ecological data held in collection data books with the Polhemus Collection (JTPC). The Nieser Collection is noted as (NCTN), the U. S National Museum as (USNM). All measurements are in millimeters.

### *Tenagobia (Baliagobia) castanea*, NEW SPECIES

Length, male 2.45 - 2.52 mm., female 2.39 - 2.68 mm.

General color castaneous, head between eyes yellowish, variably infuscated. Hyaline V-shaped mark on clavus indistinct, often lacking on posterior part; clavus and corium with hyaline guttae, costal margin of hemelytra dark, obscuring darker blotch on middle of corium; hyaline stripe on right membrane curved backward, nearly reaching costal margin; left membrane with outer half smoky, inner half hyaline, membranal suture distinct. Thoracic venter light to medium brown, abdominal venter medium to dark brown. Legs yellowish, joints and claws darker.

Head with ocular index of male 1.12-1.20, female 1.10-1.22; sutures of vertex convergent behind eyes; laterocaudal angles of vertex perpendicular to slightly obtuse; inner postocular space about four times as long as an eye facet. Apical antennal segment with 2-3 distinctly longer and thicker hairs; relative length of antennal segments I:II:III about 2.00:1.00:3.25; ratio of width:length of apical segment about 3.

Pronotum short for the genus, lateral margin almost straight, lateral parts of concave posterior margin somewhat truncate; width, male 0.94-0.95, female 0.96-0.97; proepimera weakly expanded, without mustache-like bristles but ventrally with 6 bladelike bristles, a few scattered hairs dorsad of proepimeral expansion. Ratio width of pronotum:width of scutellum 1.6-1.8.

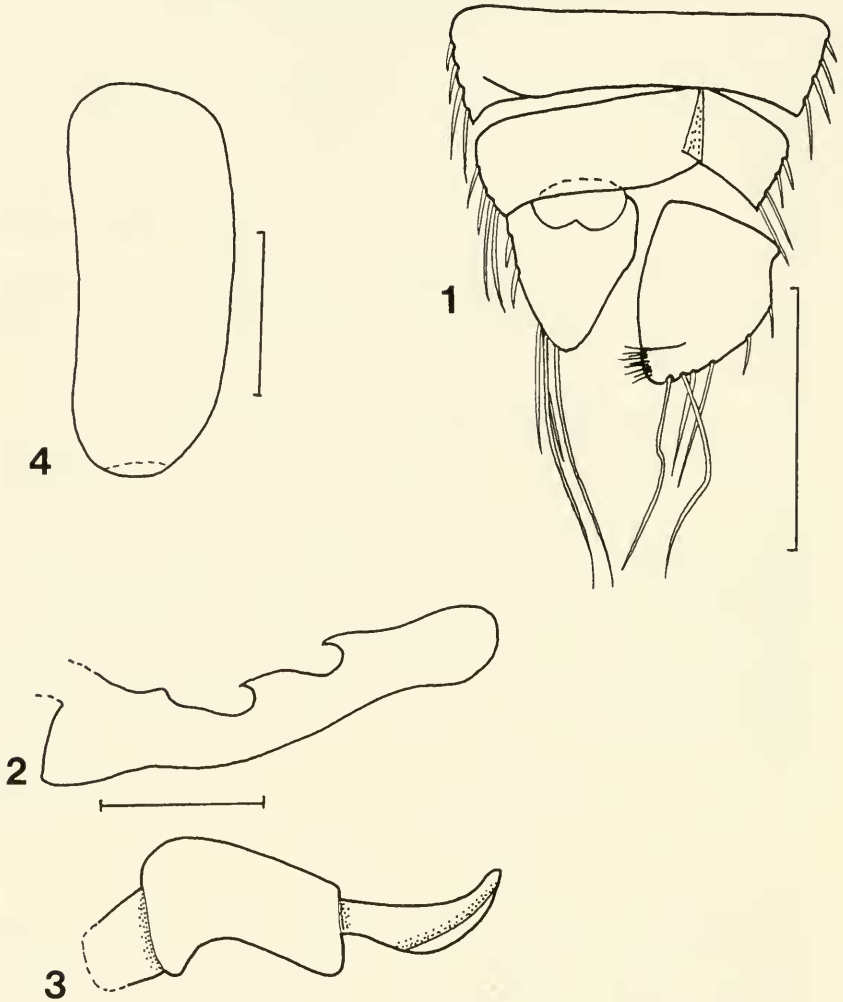
Hemelytra with many minute spines and a few small apical hairs; costal margin without spines; ratio, length of pruinose area of embolium:length of hemelytron about 0.2-0.3; only macropterous specimens known.

Fore femur with 2 spines in basal row and 1 small spinule in apical part, a spine at apical 1/4 and two apical spines on dorsal face. Pala with 23-24 bristles in lower row, 14-18 in intermediate row and 6 in upper row. Intermediate leg, ratio length of femur:tibia:tarsus:claws about 8.5:3.0:4.0:2.0. Hind leg, metatrochanter knobby (somewhat less obvious than in subgenus *Romanagobia*), ratio length of femur:tibia:tarsal I:tarsal II:claws about 8:6:6:3:3. Claw appar-

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Figures 1 - 4. *Tenagobia (Baliagobia) castanea* sp. n.

1. Male abdominal terminalia, dorsal view (scale bar = 0.5 mm).

2. 3. Male parameres. 2 right, 3 left (scale bar = 0.1 mm)

4. Female, receptaculum seminis (scale bar = 0.1 mm).

ently with two prongs, the shorter one about half the length of the longer one (measured from incision to tip).

Number of spines and bristles along the lateral margins of abdominal segments: V, 3 spines + 1 bristle; VI, 2 + 1; VII, 2 (3) + 2 (1); VIII, 3 + 4 (of which 2 are very long).

Male: paler claw elongate like a very stout bristle; apicodorsal bristle of anterior tibia absent. Prostrigil absent; dorsal lobe of left part of tergite VIII broad, bilobed (Fig. 1), with 8 hooked bristles on apical margin. Parameres characteristic (Figs. 2, 3).

Female: Length of fore femur subequal to tibia + pala, dorsal tibiotarsal bristle absent. Receptaculum seminis simple, ovate (Fig. 4).

**Type material.** Holotype, male, Venezuela, Territorio Federal Amazonas, Tobogan area, seep pool on rock, CL 2381, 23 Jan. 1989, J. T. Polhemus (USNM). Paratypes, 29 males, 28 females, 2 nymphs (not paratypes), same data as holotype (JTTC, NCTN, USNM).

**Etymology.** The epithet *castanea* refers to the yellowish-brown color.

**Habitat.** The corixid described above was among the many undescribed taxa discovered during an expedition in 1989 to the Tobogan Region of the Territorio Federal Amazonas, Venezuela, south of Puerto Ayacucho. The Tobogan area is named for the smoothly flowing cascade created by the flow of the Caño Coromoto over the sloping edge of a large, slick rock shield in the jungle. *Tenagobia (B.) castanea* was collected only from a small, shallow pool in rock fed by seeps, in a shallow depression quite removed from the main river.

**Comparative notes.** In the keys given by Nieser (1977), this species runs to the subgenus *Baliagobia*, previously monotypic. *Tenagobia (B.) balia*, the only other species of the subgenus, is known only from 2 females from the upper Rio Negro, Brazil. *Tenagobia (B.) balia* differs by a lighter color, narrower receptaculum seminis, lateral margins of pronotum longer and ratio of width of pronotum:width of scutellum slightly less. Other *Tenagobia* species have very differently shaped parameres.

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